

CLAIMS

3 1. A tail pipe for an automotive exhaust system comprising
4 a tubular member providing a passageway through which exhaust
5 gas flows between an outer end and an inner end of the tubular
6 member, said inner end being adapted to be attached to an automotive
7 exhaust system, and

8 an ornamental element located at or near said outer end, said
9 ornamental element including a symbol and being sized to provide
10 sufficient space to allow exhaust gas to flow through the tubular
11 member and past the ornamental element.

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13 2. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the ornamental element is
14 stationary and is in the shape of the symbol.

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16 3. The tail pipe of Claim 2 where the ornamental element is
17 essentially a solid structure that prevents exhaust gas from flowing
18 there through.

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20 4. The tail pipe of Claim 2 where the ornamental element is
21 essentially an open structure that allows exhaust gas to flow there
22 through.

24 5. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the outer end has a maximum total
25 area and the ornamental element occupies no more than 90 percent of
26 said maximum total area.

28 6. The tail pipe of Claim 5 where said maximum total area is from 8
29 to 20 square inches.

1 7. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the tubular member and
2 ornamental element are made of stainless steel.

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4 8. The tail pipe of Claim 7 where the tubular member and
5 ornamental element are chrome plated.

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7 9. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the ornamental element has a
8 body member with opposed ends, with each opposed end spaced from
9 an inner surface portion of the tubular member substantially the same
10 distance.

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12 10. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the ornamental element has a
13 body member that is positioned off center in the outer end.

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15 11. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the ornamental element has at
16 least two connector arms extending outwardly from a body member of
17 the ornamental element in substantially opposed directions, each arm
18 having a terminal end attached to an inner surface portion of the
19 tubular member.

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21 12. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the outer end is at an acute angle
22 with respect to a longitudinal axis of the tubular member.

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24 13. The tail pipe of Claim 12 where the acute angle is from 35 to 85
25 degrees.

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27 14. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the symbol is in the form of letters
28 or numbers or combinations thereof.

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1 15. The tail pipe of Claim 1 where the ornamental element has at
2 least a portion that is light reflective.

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4 16. The tail pipe of Claim 16 where the portion that is light reflective
5 corresponds to the symbol.

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7 17. A tail pipe for an automotive exhaust system comprising
8 a tubular member having a central axis and providing a
9 passageway extending between an outer end and an inner end of the
10 tubular member, said outer end being at an acute angle from 35 to 85
11 degrees with respect to said axis of the tubular member and said inner
12 end being adapted to be attached to an automotive exhaust system,

13 a stationary ornamental element in the shape of a symbol located
14 at or near said outer end and sized to provide sufficient space to allow
15 exhaust gas to flow through the tubular member and past the
16 ornamental element,

17 said ornamental element including a body member having
18 opposed ends, said body member being offset with respect to the axis
19 of the tubular member so that one of said opposed ends is closer to an
20 inner wall of the tubular member than the other opposed end.

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22 18. The tail pipe of Claim 17 where the ornamental element has at
23 least two connector arms extending outwardly from the body member
24 in substantially opposed directions, each arm having a terminal end
25 attached to an inner surface portion of the tubular member.

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27 19. A tail pipe ornament comprising M
28 a sleeve adapted to be connected to an exposed end of a tail pipe
29 of an automotive exhaust system, said sleeve having a passageway

1 extending between an outer end and an inner end of the sleeve, and
2 an ornamental element located at or near said outer end, said
3 ornamental element including a symbol,
4 said ornamental element being sized to provide sufficient space
5 to allow exhaust gas to flow through the sleeve and past the
6 ornamental element.

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8 20. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 19 where the sleeve fits snug
9 within the exposed end of the tail pipe.

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11 21. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 19 where the sleeve fits over the
12 exposed end of the tail pipe.

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14 22. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 19 where the ornamental
15 element is stationary and is in the shape of the symbol.

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17 23. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 22 where the ornamental
18 element is essentially a solid structure that prevents exhaust gas from
19 flowing there through.

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21 24. The tail pipe of Claim 22 where the ornamental element is
22 essentially an open structure that allows exhaust gas to flow there
23 through.

24

25 25. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 19 where the outer end has a
26 maximum total area and the ornamental element occupies no more
27 than 90 percent of said maximum total area.

28

29 26. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 25 where said maximum total

1 area is from 8 to 20 square inches.

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3 27. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 19 where the sleeve and

4 ornamental element are made of stainless steel.

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6 28. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 27 where the sleeve and

7 ornamental element are chrome plated.

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9 29. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 19 where the ornamental

10 element has a body member with opposed ends, with each opposed

11 end spaced from an inner surface portion of the sleeve substantially

12 the same distance.

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14 30. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 19 where the ornamental

15 element is positioned off center in the outer end.

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17 31. The tail pipe of Claim 19 where the ornamental element has at

18 least a portion that is light reflective.

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20 32. The tail pipe of Claim 31 where the portion that is light reflective

21 corresponds to the symbol.

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23 33. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 19 where the outer end is at an

24 acute angle with respect to a longitudinal axis of the sleeve.

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26 34. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 33 where the acute angle is from

27 35 to 85 degrees.

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29 35. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 19 where the symbol is in the

1 form of letters or numbers or combinations thereof.

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3 36. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 19 where the exposed end of a
4 tail pipe has a predetermined configuration and the sleeve comprises a
5 wall member having a configuration substantially the same as the
6 predetermined configuration of the exposed end of the tail pipe.

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8 37. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 36 where the sleeve has an inside
9 diameter from 2 to 7 inches, a length from 1/4 to 6 inches, and a
10 thickness from 1/8 to 1/2 inch.

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12 38. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 19 including a fastener element
13 that enables the tail pipe ornament to be connected to a tail pipe of an
14 automotive exhaust system in a fixed position relative to the tail pipe.

15

16 39. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 38 where the fastener element is
17 between the ornamental element and the inner end.

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19 40. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 19 where the ornamental
20 element includes a body member having at least two connector arms
21 extending outwardly from the body member in substantially opposed
22 directions, each arm having a terminal end attached to an inner
23 surface portion of the sleeve.

24

25 41. A tail pipe ornament including
26 a sleeve comprising a wall member having a predetermined
27 configuration substantially the same as the configuration of an exposed
28 end of the tail pipe to which said sleeve is to be attached,
29 said sleeve having a longitudinal axis and providing a passageway

1 extending between an outer end and an inner end of the sleeve, said
2 outer end being at an acute angle from 35 to 85 degrees with respect to
3 said longitudinal axis of the sleeve,

4 a stationary ornamental element in the shape of a symbol located
5 at or near said outer end and sized to provide sufficient space to allow
6 exhaust gas to flow through the sleeve and past the ornamental
7 element,

8 said ornamental element including a body member having
9 opposed ends, said body member being offset with respect to the
10 longitudinal axis of the sleeve so that one of said opposed ends is
11 closer to the wall member than the other opposed end, and

12 a fastener element that enables the tail pipe ornament to be
13 connected to a tail pipe of an automotive exhaust system in a fixed
14 position relative to the tail pipe.

15

16 42. A tail pipe ornament comprising

17 a sleeve having a longitudinal axis and a wall member forming a
18 longitudinal passageway extending between an outer end and an inner
19 end of the wall member,

20 a fastener element along the wall member that enables the sleeve
21 to be connected to an automotive exhaust tail pipe in a fixed position
22 relative to the tail pipe, and

23 a stationary ornamental element in the shape of a symbol located
24 at or near the outer end of the sleeve,

25 said ornamental element being sized to provide a sufficient space
26 to allow exhaust gas to flow through the sleeve and past the
27 ornamental element.

28

29 43. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 42 where the ornamental

1 element has a body member with opposed ends, with each opposed
2 end spaced from an inner surface portion of the wall member
3 substantially the same distance.

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5 44. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 42 where the outer end is at an
6 acute angle with respect to the longitudinal axis of the sleeve and the
7 ornamental element has opposed ends and is offset with respect to the
8 longitudinal axis of the sleeve so that one of said opposed ends of the
9 ornamental element is closer to the wall member than the other
10 opposed end of the ornamental element.

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12 45. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 42 where the fastener element is
13 between the ornamental element and the inner end.

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15 46. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 39 where the ornamental
16 element is light reflective.

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18 47. In combination, a tail pipe of an automotive exhaust system and a
19 tail pipe ornament,

20 said tail pipe having a longitudinal axis and an exposed end
21 having a predetermined configuration, and

22 said tail pipe ornament including

23 a sleeve having a longitudinal axis and a wall member
24 with a configuration substantially the same as the
25 predetermined configuration of said exposed end of the tail
26 pipe,

27 said wall member forming a passageway extending
28 between an outer end and an inner end of the sleeve, and

29 an ornamental element in the shape of a symbol

1 located at or near the outer end of the sleeve,
2 said sleeve being connected to the exposed end of the tail pipe
3 with the longitudinal axis of the sleeve and the longitudinal axis of the
4 tail pipe being coextensive and said ornamental element being sized to
5 provide a sufficient space to allow exhaust gas to flow through the
6 sleeve and past the ornamental element.

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8 48. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 47 where the sleeve fits snug
9 within the exposed end of the tail pipe.

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11 49. The tail pipe ornament of Claim 47 where the sleeve fits over the
12 exposed end of the tail pipe.

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14 50. The combination of Claim 47 where the ornamental element is
15 stationary.

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17 51. The combination of Claim 47 where the outer end of the sleeve
18 has a maximum total area and the ornamental element occupies no
19 more than 90 percent of said maximum total area.

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21 52. The combination of Claim 47 where said maximum total area is
22 from 8 to 20 square inches.

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24 53. The combination of Claim 47 where the open outer end of the tail
25 pipe is at an acute angle and the outer end of the sleeve is at
26 substantially the same acute angle as said open outer end of the tail
27 pipe.

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29 54. The combination of Claim 53 where the ornamental element is

1 positioned off center in the outer end of the sleeve at a sufficient
2 distance to enable the entire ornamental element to be seen when
3 looking directly into the open outer end of the tail pipe.

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5 55. The combination of Claim 47 where the outer end of the sleeve
6 and the exposed end of the tail pipe are substantially flush.

7

8 56. The combination of Claim 47 where the exposed end and an
9 adjacent internal hollow body portion of the tail pipe and the sleeve
10 are of cylindrical configuration, with the sleeve having an outside
11 diameter substantially the same as an inside diameter of the exposed
12 end and the adjacent internal hollow body portion of the tail pipe.

13

14 57. The combination of Claim 47 where the ornamental element
15 includes a body member having at least two connector arms extending
16 outwardly from the ornamental element in substantially opposed
17 directions, each arm having a terminal end attached to an inner
18 surface portion of the sleeve.

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20 58. A method of decorating a tail pipe of an automotive exhaust
21 system where the tail pipe has a passageway through which exhaust gas
22 flows and exits an exposed, open end of the tail pipe, said method
23 comprising

24 connecting to the tail pipe an ornamental element including a
25 symbol at or near said exposed, open end of the tail pipe,

26 said ornamental element being positioned so that an observer
27 when looking at the exposed, open end of the tail pipe would see the
28 symbol and being sized to provide sufficient space to allow exhaust gas
29 to flow through the tubular member and past the ornamental element.

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2 59. The method of Claim 58 where the ornamental element is
3 stationary and is in the shape of the symbol.

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5 60. The method of Claim 58 where the ornamental element is
6 essentially a solid structure that prevents exhaust gas from flowing
7 there through.

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9 61. The method of Claim 58 where the ornamental element is
10 essentially an open structure that allows exhaust gas to flow there
11 through.

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13 62. The method of Claim 58 where said exposed, open end has a
14 maximum total area and the ornamental element occupies no more
15 than 90 percent of said maximum total area.

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